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Time to fall back

Don't forget — Sunday at 2 a.m. is the time to set your clocks back one hour

CBC brass silent on Ghomeshi

Current and former execs stay mum on what they knew about allegations of violence PAGE 11

GEEKS ARE GORGEOUS

Holly Wolf may not be your typical geek, but her cosplay adventures have earned her a Facebook following one-million strong. See her and others at this weekend's C4 comic con at the Convention Centre. For more coverage, see pages 8-9, 14-15. HOLLYWOLF.CA/HANDOUT

Cabinet ministers agree to truce with Greg Selinger

Manitoba premier challenged. Can he survive the revolt?

Five senior cabinet ministers who have challenged the Manitoba premier's leadership have agreed to an uneasy truce, but questions remain as to whether Greg Selinger can survive the revolt and to when he will recall the legislature.

Theresa Oswald, jobs and the economy minister, said Thursday that she and her colleagues have agreed not to discuss their concerns publicly anymore, pending another meeting with Selinger.

Oswald, Justice Minister Andrew Swan and Finance Minister Jennifer Howard also said they would not resign and gave no indication that they were backing down from their suggestions that the premier consider stepping down.

"None of us are planning to resign. We are going to continue to uphold our oath ... to serve Manitobans," Howard said earlier in the day.

"We have spoken to the premier and he's open to meeting with us and, certainly, I have committed that I am not going to speak about these issues in the media," Oswald later told reporters.

Selinger was not available for comment.

The rebellion includes other top cabinet ministers — Erin Selby in health and Stan Struthers in municipal government.

It's not clear how much firm support Selinger has in caucus.

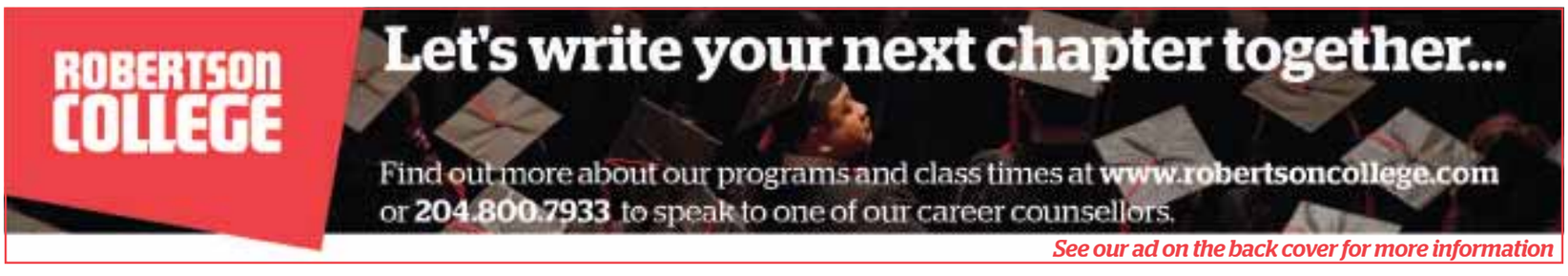
Opposition Leader Brian Pallister and Liberal Leader Rana Bokhari said the NDP infighting has made the government dysfunctional.

"The question ... that Manitobans have to ask (the government) is, 'Why should we trust you if you don't even trust one another?"' Pallister asked.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legislature

The legislature is normally recalled in mid-November for a three-week sitting and a throne speech that outlines the government's agenda for the coming year. But there was no indication Thursday as to when the session might start. Swan would not commit to holding one at all this fall.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NEWS

Home heating

Natural-gas costs going up in Man.

Natural-gas customers in Manitoba are facing higher home-heating costs. The Public Utilities Board has approved a price increase that amounts to $43 a year for typical residential customers.
CJOB/THE CANADIAN PRESS

West Broadway

Raid nets $12,500 worth of crack

A Winnipeg man is facing trafficking charges after police found $12,500 worth of crack cocaine during a raid in West Broadway Wednesday. Darin Michael Ferbrache, 52, is facing a number of charges. METRO

Woman, teens arrested

Cops make bust in clothes-theft spree

A woman and two teenaged girls are facing charges after police made arrests in relation to a months-long crime spree that saw thousands of dollars worth of clothing stolen from local shops. A 21-year-old Winnipeg woman as well as two girls aged 16 and 17 are facing charges. METRO

St. Vital

Police find 55 pot plants during raid

A 67-year-old Winnipeg man is facing charges after police found 55 pot plants growing in a St. Vital home Wednesday during a raid on a home in the 1000 block of St. Mary's Road. METRO

Police search home of woman charged in dead-baby case

Police spent a second straight day Thursday searching the Maples area home of Andrea Giesbrecht, the woman facing charges in connection to the six dead babies found in a McPhillips Street storage locker earlier this month. Police wouldn't say exactly why they're there or what they've found, but did say no further remains have been located. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Former archbishop's lawyer wants new evidence heard in client's sexual assault appeal

Seraphim Storheim. Lawyer says evidence could have affected outcome of trial that ended in conviction

A lawyer for a former archbishop convicted of sexually assaulting an altar boy in the 1980s says he has fresh evidence that could have exonerated his client during his trial.

Jeff Gindin, who represents Seraphim Storheim, filed a notice of motion asking that the new evidence be heard when the case appears before Manitoba's Court of Appeal on Friday.

In court documents, Gindin says the evidence relates to the victim's visit with Storheim and Storheim's relationship with one of the defence witnesses, Connie Kucharczyk, who helped Storheim entertain the boy during his stay.

"The aforementioned evidence could reasonably, when taken with other evidence adduced at the trial, be expected to have affected the outcome of the trial," Gindin wrote in a motion filed Oct. 17. "The evidence was not available by all due diligence at the time of the trial."

Gindin declined to comment further about the new evidence. The Crown also declined to be interviewed.

Storheim was convicted earlier this year of sexually assaulting a boy who had come to visit him in Winnipeg in 1985. The 68-year-old was sentenced to eight months in jail but has been free on bail pending his appeal hearing. Justice Christopher Mainella, who presided over Storheim's trial, now sits on the Court of Appeal.

In his original appeal notice filed in July, Gindin said he was appealing on numerous grounds. The conviction "is contrary to law, evidence and the weight of the evidence," Gindin wrote.

Mainella should have given greater credibility to Storheim's evidence and should not have dismissed Kucharczyk's evidence "due to bias" that did not exist, the defence lawyer suggested.

He also challenged the eight-month sentence handed to Storheim. Gindin had argued for no jail time, because Storheim's reputation had been ruined and he didn't have a criminal record.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baby Errabella Harper was fast asleep in a three-bedroom house in St. Theresa Point First Nation when fire broke out.
HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

House fires on First Nation reserves more likely to be deadly

Resources lacking. Many communities ill-equipped to prevent incidents, fight blazes and rescue people

Baby Errabella Harper was fast asleep in a three-bedroom house with no running water on St. Theresa Point First Nation when fire broke out.

While the blaze ripped through the house, the community's fire truck sat, broken, in a garage, and with no fire hoses. No one knew where the keys were anyway.

Four older children escaped into the frigid January morning in 2011 and another toddler was rescued, but Errabella, who was only 2 1/2 months old, died.

A few months later, fire killed 73-year-old Demus James and his grandchildren: Throne Kirkness, 2, and three-year-old Kayleigh Okemow in God's Lake Narrows.

The community didn't have a fire truck and tried to battle the flames with two water trucks. People scrambled to find a monkey wrench to open a nearby fire hydrant, but it was too late.

Statistics show that residents of Manitoba First Nations are far more likely to die in house fires than people living off reserve because of outdated and overcrowded housing, poor fire prevention education and an often total inability to respond when fires break out.

Although fires on reserves make up less than five per cent of all fires in Manitoba, they account for up to half the fatalities.

Statistics from the Office of the Fire Commissioner show a person who is in a house fire in Winnipeg is more likely to escape with injuries. Someone in a similar fire on a reserve is more likely to die.

"It shouldn't be like this," said Beverly Trout, guardian of three-year-old Kayleigh, who died along with Trout's father and nephew in God's Lake Narrows.

"My prayer is this does not happen to anybody else again because it is so painful."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report reveals broken trucks, frozen hydrants

A 2012 report done by Manitoba fire commissioner's office and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs sheds stark light on the inadequacies of fire protection on reserves.

The study obtained by The Canadian Press found that five reserves with a combined population of 13,000 budgeted roughly $18 per capita for fire services, but five municipalities of the same size budgeted about $51.

Of 61 Manitoba reserves surveyed for the report, 15 per cent said they had enough hose to battle a fire.

Almost one-third did not have a fire truck and 39 per cent did not have a fire hall. Roughly half the communities couldn't say how much of their budget was allocated to fire protection.

Some say little has changed since the report was issued.

God's Lake Narrows didn't have a fire truck, fire hall or any equipment in 2011 when fire killed Demus James and his two grandchildren.

Now, the community of about 2,500 has a fire chief, James Watt, along with a fire truck and some equipment. But there are still problems in the remote, fly-in community.

Watt said it can be hard to reach the community's firefighters when there is a blaze because no one knows where the department's three radios are.

A call-out to volunteers is sent over the community radio station, but it shuts down at 8 p.m., he said.

Volunteers — who have taken a two-day crash course on firefighting — take turns wearing the one fire suit that fits properly.

And without a permanent fire hall, the fire truck could be parked anywhere. During one fire, Watt said the truck was parked outside the RCMP detachment, but no one knew where the key was.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fires on Manitoba reserves

- **January 2010.** Edward Redhead, 11, dies in a house fire in Shamattawa. No one could find the fire chief and no one realized the boy was missing until several days later.
- **May 2010.** Curtis Laporte, 2, dies in a house fire on the Long Plain First Nation after he seeks shelter behind a couch.
- **January 2011.** Errabella Harper, 2 1/2 months, dies in a house fire in St. Theresa Point. The community's fire truck was broken.
- **January 2011.** Daphne Benjoe, 41, dies in a house fire on the Roseau River First Nation. Firefighters were left without water, because fire hydrants were frozen.

Inquest. Fire chief expected to provide fire protection for $70,000 per year

At St. Theresa Point First Nation, fire Chief Chris Knott is trying to re-establish a firefighting service on a budget of $70,000.

That cash is expected to cover equipment, a fire truck, training and Knott's salary, he testified at an inquest in March into Errabella Harper's death.

Fires on the remote fly-in reserve of about 2,600 people are frequent. Between March and November of last year, the reserve had 14 house fires and 106 fires in total, Knott said.

One of those fires destroyed the RCMP office. The fire hall burned to the ground in 2009.

Getting around the northern reserve is challenging since some homes are barely accessible by road, especially in the winter, Knott testified.

"So, if there is a house fire five miles away, and it takes you 15 to 20 minutes to get there, what are you looking at when you finally arrive?" Crown attorney Nicole Roch asked him.

"Tragedy," Knott replied.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada declined to provide anyone to talk about fires on reserves.

The department says a working team was formed after the 2012 joint report analyzing the state of fire protection on Manitoba reserves.

In a statement, the department said it provides $26 million a year in funding for firefighting on reserves across Canada, but it's up to individual communities to prioritize their spending. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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By the numbers

Some facts about fires and fire protection on Manitoba reserves

- **15 per cent:** First Nations that have sufficient amount of fire hose.
- **50 per cent:** First Nations that don't know how much their fire department's budget is.
- **$18.50:** Per-capita fire protection budget of five Manitoba reserves with about 13,000 people.
- **$51.70:** Per-capita fire protection budget of five municipalities with about 13,000 people.
- **39 per cent:** First Nations that don't have a fire hall.
- **28 per cent:** First Nations that don't have a fire truck.
- **11 per cent:** First Nations that have a fire education program.
- **93 per cent:** First Nations that have no written fire protection plan.
- **$28 million:** What the federal government estimates is needed to reduce fatal fires on Manitoba reserves.
- **$2.5 million:** What Manitoba reserves get directly each year for fire protection services.
- **3 per cent:** Fires in Manitoba that occurred on reserves in 2010.
- **55 per cent:** Fire fatalities in Manitoba that occurred on reserves in 2010.
- **67 per cent:** First Nations that have a mutual firefighting aid agreement with a neighbouring community.
- **24 per cent:** First Nations that have those agreements in writing.

SOURCES: ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT CANADA, ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS AND THE MANITOBA OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

A burned-out stove is pictured in January 2011 in St. Theresa Point First Nation, Man. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fires on reserves high risk: Report

Manitoba First Nations. Internal federal document recommends $28 million in funding; only $4 million given out

Proactive measures urged to reduce fire loss

The report estimates Manitoba reserves need the money for "proactive measures and regional plan to reduce fire loss in the short and medium term."

- The $28 million is more than the $26 million the federal government spends on fire protection every year on all reserves across the country.
- Instead, the report notes only $4 million was budgeted for "short-term plan" in 2012.

An internal report from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada estimates it will take a $28-million injection of federal funding to reduce the number of deadly fires on Manitoba reserves, but only a fraction of that amount has been approved.

In a department quarterly report from December 2011, obtained by The Canadian Press through access-to-information laws, fires on reserves are highlighted as a "high risk."

"The high rate of fire losses on Manitoba First Nations is the result of several factors including the operation and maintenance of housing stock, training and retaining firefighters, need for fire prevention awareness and the challenges presented to firefighters due to the climate and isolation of remote communities," the quarterly report states.

The department declined to provide anyone to answer questions on the recommendation or about fire protection on reserves.

In an emailed statement, spokesman Brock Holowachuk said Manitoba received a one-time payment of $4 million that was "targeted at remote and isolated First Nations, resulting in the purchase of six fire trucks, and construction of three fire halls." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Frustration. No money for basics, so reserves have little for fires: Chief

Grand Chief Derek Nepinak of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs said it's impossible for band councils to spend large amounts of money on fire protection when they don't have enough money to meet basic needs.

"How do you prioritize when there are challenges with safe drinking water in a community?" he asked. "How do you prioritize when you need 100 homes in the community and people are living 15 to 20 people in a house?

"It's easy to say, but the solutions are much more nuanced than that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

New focus. Prevention is key, report suggests

A joint report by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Office of the Fire Commissioner suggests one way to prevent future tragedies is to focus on fire prevention rather than trying to fix the shortcomings of fire departments.

Since the vast majority of fatalities happen in house fires, the report says home inspections "have the greatest potential for saving lives."

"Given that some First Nation communities' fire departments lack the infrastructure, staffing and training to reliably respond to fires quickly and effectively, the importance of fire prevention, including fire safety inspections program, cannot be overstated." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Gamer girl. Holly Wolf appearing at Comic Con

If you love girls who love games you won't want to miss the chance to meet Holly Wolf at C4 Central Canada Comic Con in Winnipeg this weekend.

The 26-year-old Toronto native can not only talk your ear off about cosplay and handily take you to school at a game of Zelda — she's also a Playboy model.

"I've always been a big gamer," said Wolf, whose interest in geek culture — which started in grade school — was something she used to keep under wraps. "I just didn't find it necessary to let everyone to know, my close friends knew of course, but I didn't put it out there as much.

"But now I'm like, 'This is what I love!'"

Once she let the cat out of the bag and started posing in geek-inspired photo shoots, Wolf said she had to defend herself against some who thought it might just be a façade.

"People would test my knowledge," she laughed. "But I know what I'm talking about, so once people realized that, and found out I was more than a typical model posing in gamer gear to look sexy, then they figured, 'OK, this girl is kind of cool.'"

Playboy model and cosplay aficionado Holly Wolf will be at C4 Central Canada Comic Con in Winnipeg this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

Wolf will be judging costumes and meeting fans at C4, which runs Friday through Sunday at RBC Convention Centre.

METRO

River City Jedi: Winnipeg's real lightsaber masters

Calling all Padawans. Lightsaber group will do demonstration at Winnipeg's C4 Central Canada Comic Con

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

Winnipeggers no longer need to fear a Stormtrooper attack.

Should the Empire ever try to take over Winnipeg City Hall, members of River City Jedi — the city's first and only lightsaber combat/martial arts group — have the chops to fake out the dark side and send those nerf herders back to a galaxy far, far away.

"It started out with a bunch of us who liked fighting and sparing," explained River City Jedi's training director, Dave Alberto, who said the group of friends, made up of Star Wars fans, got a little more serious when they learned about and bought LED combat-capable lightsabers. "Then we'd get together and just beat on each other with those."

River City Jedi is Winnipeg's first and only lightsaber combat/martial arts group. FACEBOOK

Over the last three-and-half years the group has grown and adopted the teachings of the Terra Prime Lightsaber Academy, an online, open source lightsaber school working to see the weapons used for "historical martial arts in a modern and relevant context," according to their Facebook site.

Red River Jedi and their 15 to 20 students now meet once a month to learn the real-world sword combat forms that inspired the lightsaber duelling scenes in the Star Wars movies.

Essentially, explained Alberto, it's like going to a class to learn traditional sword combat forms like kendo or fencing, except with a way cooler sword.

"Most people's eyes really widen when we tell them that we're here to actually fight and the fact that it's a lightsaber makes it a little bit better," he said.

The Red River Jedi will be doing demonstrations all weekend at C4 Central Canada Comic Con. Padawans can find more information on the group and their classes at the River City Jedi Facebook page.

Watch your hands

The LED lightsabers members use run anywhere from $100 to more than $1,000, can hold up to extremely hard combat, and can really smart, said Alberto.

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McTavish relishes time with fellow Hobbits

Fan fest. Scottish actor joins castmates from hit movie trilogy at C4 this weekend

ELISHA DACEY
elisha.dacey@metronews.ca

Graham McTavish says he knows the exact moment he realized he'll never work on a project quite like The Hobbit again.

"We were in a park in New Zealand; it was a protected park. (The filmmakers) had to get special government permission to film in this park.

"So we're up on this mountainside filming, and there's no power, so everything is running on generators ... and then suddenly you hear a helicopter. On the helicopter is an espresso machine and a couple of baristas. They had flown them in to this protected park with no power so the crew could have espresso.

At a glance

Graham McTavish played Dwalin, one of the dwarves in the three Hobbit movies.

- The final instalment of The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies comes out this Christmas.
- McTavish is currently filming The Finest Hours, a true story about a daring Coast Guard rescue during a blizzard in 1952. McTavish joked he spends his days filming "soaking wet."

Graham McTavish plays Dwalin in The Hobbit. GETTY IMAGES

"Yeah, unless I get a role in Star Wars, doing something like The Hobbit, it's once-in-a-lifetime."

Speaking to Metro Winnipeg from Boston last month, where he was filming the movie The Finest Hours for Disney, the Scottish film and voice actor says he's done several comic book conventions, calling them a "pleasure."

"It's always fun to meet up with the guys (fellow Hobbit actors) and talk to fans, have a few beers."

McTavish said he's always surprised by the depth of knowledge fans have about the fandoms he's participated in, including his video game work and his role on TV series Outlander.

For more details about this year's C4 event, go to page 14.

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NO CHILD TOO FAR

Feds unveil family tax credits, benefits

Families first. Conservatives' taxation and child-care pledge aims to put more money in Canadians' pockets

Prime Minister Stephen Harper does arts and crafts with a student at the Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Jewish Community Campus in Vaughan, Ont., on Wednesday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is pressing ahead with income splitting for families with kids under 18 — a multibillion-dollar Conservative election promise from 2011 that critics have said would benefit too few Canadians.

To address that complaint, the Conservative government is also boosting the universal child-care benefit — $160 a month for kids under six, up from $100, plus a new monthly benefit of $60 for children aged six through 17, effective in 2015.

"Our goal has always been to make sure that Canada is the best country in the world in which to raise a family," said Harper during a campaign-style event in Vaughan, Ont.

"Our government is utterly convinced of one thing: When it comes to the cost of raising a family, Canada's moms and dads deserve all of the help that we can give them."

The government is also adding $1,000 to the various limits on the child-care expense deduction, which allows taxpayers to claim child-care expenses incurred in order to work or go to school. This measure carries an estimated cost of $15 million in 2014-15 and $65 million in 2015-16.

Harper repeatedly hammered home the message that the entire suite of measures would benefit all Canadian families with children.

And he acknowledged the whopping price tag, which he said the government would well be able to afford.

"At the same time, we're doing this in a way that ensures that the things we promised in the last election will actually reach people in the life of this Parliament."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Family Tax Cut

The Conservative government's Family Tax Cut will allow eligible taxpayers to transfer up to $50,000 of income to his or her spouse for tax purposes.

- **Annual credit.** Under the government's plan a non-refundable tax credit of $2,000 can be collected.
- **Cash for families.** Aside from income splitting, the government's pledges to also increase the monthly child-care benefit to $160 for children under the age of six and introduce a $60 monthly benefit to families with children aged six to 17 will further help parents.
- **Stephen Harper.** "Under the plan we announced today, every single Canadian family with children will benefit. Everyone will have more money in their pockets."
- **Total costs.** The prime minister said the government's measures will cost $3.1 billion in 2014-15 and $4.5 billion in 2015-16.

Ex-Calgary teacher's fears mount as prosecutors prepare charges

Neil Bantleman
CONTRIBUTED

Neil Bantleman said Thursday from his Jakarta cell that he fears for his safety as Indonesian prosecutors prepare to lay sexual abuse charges against the former Calgary teacher.

"I would like to ask the government to assist me in anyway possible as I have little confidence in the judicial system here and am very concerned about receiving a fair trial," he wrote in a message to Metro.

On Wednesday, his brother Guy Bantleman told reporters he's learned the case police have said they're building against Neil has been turned over to prosecutors and it's likely charges would be laid by week's end.

Neil has adamantly denied accusations that he sexually abused kindergarten-aged children at the Jakarta International School, where he and his wife, Tracy, work. Both he and another teacher taken into custody at the same time in July have received support from thousands around the world.

Fears have also emerged that Neil will be transferred from a minimum-security cell in Jakarta to a maximum-security site that his brother has said will be filled with gangsters, rapists and murderers.

Neil said in his messages he hadn't received formal word of a transfer, but fears the nature of the charges against him could make him a target.

"I am very concerned for my safety as we enter a new jail with horrible allegations placed against us," he said, referring to himself and fellow teacher Ferdinand Tijong.

Neil said his lawyers are trying to obtain the evidence that Jakarta police intend to bring against him in court.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

CBC execs mum on Ghomeshi

Jian Ghomeshi arrives on the green carpet for the Juno Gala in Winnipeg on March 29. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Staying silent. How much did they know? Head honchos refuse to speak publicly about allegations of violence

Top brass at the CBC are silent on what they knew, and when, about allegations of violence and sexual harassment against disgraced radio host Jian Ghomeshi.

President Hubert Lacroix, executive vice-president of English services Heather Conway and head of radio Chris Boyce did not return multiple requests for comment on Thursday, the same day the CBC told staff it was hiring an external firm to investigate allegations against Ghomeshi within the firm and offering counselling.

"Given that these matters are now before the courts and the grievance arbitration process, we will be limited in our communications," CBC spokesman Chuck Thompson said in an email to Torstar News Service.

"We look forward to the opportunity to fully disclose the facts of these matters. We are extremely confident that CBC will be seen to have acted very quickly when we concluded that we could not continue our employment relationship with Jian Ghomeshi.... We believe that the information will demonstrate that the CBC acted as a prudent and responsible employer."

While CBC executives have not spoken publicly, they are communicating with staff about the Ghomeshi allegations. In a memo announcing the third-party investigation and counselling, Conway called Torstar and CBC reports "extremely disturbing and of great concern to all of us."

She praised the "professionalism" of staff and reminded them that while they are not prevented from responding to reporters' questions, they should not feel obligated.

It isn't just current CBC managers staying mum. Kirstine Stewart, in charge of English services from 2011 to 2013 and now a VP at Twitter, told Torstar in a tweet to contact the site's PR department, which did not return a request for comment.

Former CBC president Robert Rabinovitch, at the CBC helm from 1999 to 2007, and Denise Donlon, head of radio from 2008 to 2011, did not return requests for comment.

Only Richard Stursberg, executive vice-president of English services from 2004 to 2010, talked to Torstar. He was in charge in 2007, when Q was born.

"There was never any conversation or indication at the time that there was anything problematic about his behaviour," said Stursberg.

"I was saddened for the CBC, I was saddened for Jian's career, and sad for the women ..." said Stursberg on the allegations.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CBC's union

The union representing CBC employees is also keeping a tight lid on information, after it announced Wednesday that one CBC employee who spoke with Torstar did not report her allegations to a union representative, but rather a colleague who was a union volunteer.

- The union said this person was not given the details the woman shared with Torstar.

Prince Charles. Royal donates to families of slain Canadian soldiers

Prince Charles has made what is being described as a substantial donation to the families of the two Canadian soldiers killed recently in separate attacks.

Clarence House confirmed a donation was made to the True Patriot Love Foundation, which is managing the flood of money coming in through the Stand on Guard Fund. The contribution was made explicitly for the families of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo and Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent.

The Prince of Wales's Charitable Foundation isn't revealing the amount of the donation, but a source close to the matter called it "substantial."

The Stand on Guard Fund was created in the wake of last Wednesday's fatal shooting of reservist Cpl. Nathan Cirillo in front of the National War Memorial in Ottawa. Donations can be made through standonguardfund.com.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto

Two charged in $3M credit card scam

A Toronto man and woman are facing multiple charges in connection with an alleged credit card fraud that stretched over three years and amounted to more than $3 million.

It's alleged that between May 2011 and August 2014, the suspects applied online for more than 100 credit cards using other people's names.

Police say the pair targeted Home Depot Canada, purchasing gift cards, appliances, home renovation products and other items, and that payments were made using not-sufficient-fund cheques.

Police say a search warrant was executed on their home. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jian Ghomeshi dropped by PR firms

Last week, Jian Ghomeshi was a media star. Now he's waging the public opinion war solo. Both his crisis communications firm and traditional public relations firm severed ties with the former Q star Thursday.

Ghomeshi issued only a brief statement on Thursday, after the detailed accounts of how he allegedly strangled, hit or demeaned eight women hit the news cycle. The count has since risen to nine and the alleged violence has sparked a discussion about sexual violence and rape culture in Canada.

"I want to thank you for your support and assure you that I intend to meet these allegations directly. I don't intend to discuss this matter any further with the media," wrote the former media darling on Facebook.

Ghomeshi's previous Facebook post, published preemptive of the initial allegations, claimed CBC fired him only for having kinky sex and blamed a "jilted" ex for orchestrating a campaign against him. The post is widely suspected to have been done with the help of Navigator, the high-stakes public strategy and communications firm he hired, which is known for representing high-profile clients in serious trouble, including former Ontario attorney general Michael Bryant after the death of cyclist Darcy Sheppard and former prime minister Brian Mulroney in the Airbus scandal.

However, Navigator announced late Thursday it is no longer representing Ghomeshi.

"In response to numerous media requests, Navigator confirms it does not advise Jian Ghomeshi. Regrettably, the circumstances of our engagement have changed and we are no longer able to continue," the company said in a statement.

It was a break in strategy for the strategy firm, as only a few hours earlier a Navigator spokesperson told Metro: "We never confirm or deny who our clients are, nor do we speak about them."

Rock-it Promotions, which had a long-standing PR relationship with Ghomeshi, announced it also had severed ties with him.

Public strategy and communications firm Navigator, which represented former prime minister Brian Mulroney in the Airbus scandal, announced it is no longer representing Jian Ghomeshi. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Siri Agrell, vice-president of communications firm Pilot PMR, said she believes both companies were put in a difficult position by Ghomeshi.

"Like the rest of us, there was no way they could have know the extent of the situation, and how serious it is.

"As the evidence grew, it became clear that Jian doesn't need a PR firm — Jian needs legal advice," she said.

JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO IN TORONTO

Nurse defies Ebola quarantine

Maine. Kaci Hickox, who spent time treating patients in Sierra Leone, was the first forced into New Jersey's mandatory quarantine

A nurse who vowed to defy Maine's voluntary quarantine for health-care workers who treated Ebola patients followed through on her promise Thursday, leaving her home for an hour-long bike ride.

Kaci Hickox and her boyfriend stepped out of their home Thursday morning and rode away on mountain bikes, followed by a state police cruiser.

It was the second time Hickox broke quarantine. She left her home Wednesday evening briefly to speak to reporters, even shaking a hand that was offered to her.

Hickox contends there's no need for quarantine because she's showing no symptoms. She's also tested negative for the deadly disease.

"I really hope that we can work things out amicably and continue to negotiate," she said Thursday morning while riding on a dirt trail. There was no immediate comment from state health officials, who were going to court to detain Hickox for the remainder of the 21-day incubation period for Ebola that ends on Nov. 10.

"There's a lot of misinformation about how Ebola is transmitted, and I can understand why people are frightened. But their fear is not based on medical facts," Norman Siegel, one of her attorneys, said Wednesday.

Hickox, who treated Ebola patients while volunteering in Sierra Leone with Doctors Without Borders, was the first person forced into New Jersey's mandatory quarantine for people arriving at the Newark airport from three West African countries.

Hickox spent the weekend in a tent in New Jersey before travelling to the home of her boyfriend.

The state's court filing was expected Thursday, officials said.

If a judge grants the state request, then Hickox will appeal the decision on constitutional grounds, necessitating a hearing, Siegel said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Legality and guidelines

Generally, states have broad authority when it comes to such matters. But Maine health officials could have a tough time convincing a judge that Hickox poses a threat, said attorney Jackie L. Caynon III, who specializes in health law in Worcester, Mass.

- Guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend daily monitoring for health-care workers like Hickox who have come into contact with Ebola patients. But some states like Maine are going above and beyond those guidelines.

Nurse Kaci Hickox leaves her home on a rural road in Fort Kent, Maine, for a bike ride with her boyfriend on Thursday. ROBERT F. BUKATY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2018 World Cup. FIFA regrets video that shows Crimea part of Russia

FIFA has expressed regret on Thursday after its video launching the logo for the 2018 World Cup showed the disputed Crimean peninsula as part of Russia.

The video, broadcast as the logo was beamed onto Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre on Tuesday, included a map of host nation Russia, including Crimea.

Russia annexed the Crimean peninsula in March to fierce opposition from many Western governments. The Ukrainian government still claims Crimea as part of its territory. The original video has been removed from FIFA's YouTube channel and replaced with an edited version excluding the two-second sequence in which the map of Russia was shown. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea to crack down on tourists over fears of Ebola virus

North Korea announced Thursday it will quarantine foreigners entering the country for 21 days over fears of the spread of the Ebola virus, even though no cases of the disease have been reported anywhere in Asia, and very few foreigners are allowed to enter.

North Korea is always on guard against outside influences, but now that it perceives the deadly disease to be a threat, its anxiety has reached a new level. It has banned tourists, put business groups on hold and is looking even more suspiciously than usual at every foreign face coming across its borders.

Case in point: When a high-level delegation from Japan arrived in Pyongyang this week, two of the first people they met were dressed in full hazmat gear. The steps also send a message to the North Korean people to be afraid of the outside world.

North Korea's response to the Ebola outbreak is also surprising because it admits so few foreigners. Other than diplomatic and government missions, it has virtually no contact with any of the countries that have been most affected in west Africa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quarantine

An announcement distributed Thursday to diplomatic missions in Pyongyang said that, regardless of country or region of origin, all foreigners will be quarantined under medical observation for 21 days.

Philadelphia

Police create 'safe zone' for online transactions

A police department in suburban Philadelphia has created a "safe zone" for people to complete transactions they arranged online.

The Conshohocken Police Department said individuals making purchases through Craigslist and other sites are free to complete deals in the department's lobby or parking lot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Technology and stuff.' #ChevyGuy to keep his job

Before 9 a.m. on the day after the worst night of his life, Rikk Wilde got a call from his boss at General Motors. Yes, he committed a nationally televised blooper while presenting pickup truck keys to the World Series MVP. No, he wouldn't be fired.

GM had lined up Wilde for the postgame presentation because he's a good employee and loves baseball. There was hope that he'd be giving the keys to a Chevrolet Colorado to someone on the home team. But instead it went to San Francisco Giants ace Madison Bumgarner.

Wilde had practised for the moment, an effort to draw attention to GM's newest product. He stumbled and had to look to his notes. He ad-libbed a line that would bring guffaws on social media: "It combines class-winning and leading, you know, technology and stuff, with Wi-Fi powered by OnStar."

#Technologyandstuff was trending on Twitter, as was #ChevyGuy, with many comparing Wilde to the late Chris Farley. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dow Jones: 17,195.42 (+221.11)

TV, mobile content

Rogers teams up with Vice Media to target Millennials

Rogers Communications is teaming with pugnacious cultural magazine and digital outlet Vice Media in a $100-million joint venture that will launch a new TV channel and open a production studio in downtown Toronto.

The partnership between Montreal-created Vice and Canadian media giant Rogers will begin next year with the Vice TV Network in Canada and a digital distribution model that will let Rogers chase the 18- to 34-year-old demographic with exclusive mobile content. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

HBO's scripted library

Don't Curb Your Enthusiasm... Bell starts a video streaming service

Bell Media is launching a new video streaming service that will include the entire HBO scripted library.

The company says the subscription service, code-named Project Latte, will feature premium programming, including The Sopranos, The Wire and Sex and the City.

The Wire streaming will mark the first time the series is presented in HD.

Other HBO programs in the service include Six Feet Under, Band of Brothers, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Big Love, Entourage and In Treatment. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Double-double, toil and trouble for Tim Hortons?

Report. Takeover by Burger King could have some scary consequences, such as massive layoffs

Tim Hortons' takeover by Burger King's parent company may prove stale for Canadians. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Widespread layoffs and strict cost-cutting measures could befall Tim Hortons if Burger King's parent company takes over the chain, says a study from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The left-leaning think-tank released a scathing review of 3G Capital's past takeovers on Thursday and concluded that the Brazilian private equity firm's track record is predictive of "overwhelmingly negative consequences for Canadians" and the Tim Hortons restaurant chain.

"Without additional strong assurances from 3G Capital that no jobs will be lost ... this may not be in the net benefit of Canada," said CCPA senior economist David Macdonald, who was involved in the preparation of the report.

The policy centre said 3G Capital hasn't made a suitable case for how the merged company benefits Canadians and it's urging the federal government to demand "a better deal" before it approves the transaction.

Included in its analysis is the assumption that the investment company, in its $11-billion US takeover of the Canadian company, would follow a similar playbook to past takeovers.

The report suggests 3G Capital's debt financing could force Tim Hortons to lay off more than 700 employees — or 44 per cent of staff working outside its restaurants — as its tries to manage the debt of the merged company.

In response to the study, Tim Hortons spokesman Scott Bonikowsky said the merged company intends to keep the Tim Hortons brand independent of its owner and maintain "traditional levels of community support, restaurant-level jobs and franchisee relationships." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Apple CEO. Tim Cook smashes the glass closet

Apple CEO Tim Cook
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Apple CEO Tim Cook says he's proud to be gay.

The public declaration, in an essay written for Bloomberg Businessweek, makes Cook the highest-profile business CEO to come out as gay.

Cook said that while he never denied his sexuality, he never publicly acknowledged it, either. The executive said that for years he's been open with many people about his sexual orientation and that plenty of his Apple colleagues know he is gay.

Cook wrote in the column, published Thursday, that it wasn't an easy choice to publicly disclose that he is gay, but that he felt the acknowledgement could help others.

"I've come to realize that my desire for personal privacy has been holding me back from doing something more important," he wrote.

Three days ago, Cook challenged his home state of Alabama to better ensure the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Alabama is among the states that do not recognize same-sex marriage, and it also doesn't offer legal protections on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Cook is a native of Robertsdale, Ala., and attended Auburn University.

The announcement is a "huge deal," said Richard Metheny of executive search firm Witt/Kieffer.

"This really sets the stage for 'It's OK,'" he said. "Anything CEOs do is very magnified, very complicated, and it affects a lot of people.... There's no taking away that he has become a role model and will have a positive influence on lots of people that would like to be comfortable being out in the world of business." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Artist Alley Experience
Concert Series
12 & Under Free
Safe Trick or Treat
Video Gaming
CWE Wrestling
C4

One Con to rule them all...

Central Canada Comic Con organizer says convention will excite lots of different fans

It's billed as "an explosive event" and this year's Central Canada Comic Con, at the RBC Convention Centre from Oct. 31 through Nov. 2, challenges you to ignite your fandom.

"If you are a fan of something — a TV show, a comic, a movie, anything — I invite you to come to the show and you'll leave a Super Fan," said Violet Paille, president of the Central Canada Comic Con.

It can be a challenge to create, to appropriate a Lord of the Rings term, One Con to Rule Them All, but Paille says they work diligently to ensure that all fans are satisfied.

"We try a lot of different things — obviously we have to have both Star Wars and Star Trek represented, but we also try to bring in people from other shows," she says. "And our fans are pretty good about letting us know what they liked and what they didn't like."

This year's Comic Con features five of the dwarves from The Hobbit movie who will be making their first Canadian appearance.

"People are going to be talking about this event the next day, so you'll definitely want to experience it yourself," Paille says.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

"In the past, we've had people come up to us and say, 'I thought about going for the past couple of years and finally did — why did I wait so long?' And they've become regular attendees."

Tickets are available at c4winnipeg.com.

WHEN AND WHERE TO GO

Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 2014
RBC Convention Centre
375 York Ave.
Friday: 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m to 6 p.m.
Website: c4winnipeg.com
One-day, two-day, and three-day passes available, in addition to memberships

Also featured this year:

- Approximately 100 exhibitors, more than half coming from outside of Winnipeg throughout North America
- Cosplay contests
- A Miss C4 contest
- Concerts (including a band that plays versions of classic video game themes)
- Wrestlers (including Tito Santana, Jake the Snake Roberts, and Victoria)
- Cast members from Lost Girl
- Some of the industry's top artists

'The geeks are cool now'

Event now attracts the general public

So who goes to a Comic Con?

Stereotypically, it's a denizen of geekdom. But the truth of the matter is that if you look around, chances are you're going to see more people who look like you — no matter who you are. And, of course, the 'geeks' have inherited the Earth.

"It's funny, I think the geeks are cool now," explained Violet Paille, president of the Central Canada Comic Con, adding that much of the most popular media consumed by the general public — from movies to TV shows — is based on what would have previously been considered 'geeky.'

"You'll get people who are fans of shows and certain media, but you'll also get families involved — sometimes it's parents wanting to share their passion with their kids; others just want to come and check out the show and enjoy the Cosplayers' costumes."

In fact, that traditional stereotype has gone by the wayside — though more because it's become accepted as the positive experience it is.

"We've started to draw a lot more of the general public — it's not just core collectors and those who have been playing Dungeons and Dragons in their basements since the 1980s," she adds, laughing.

There's a benefit, locally, for businesses in attracting this broader demographic as well, Paille explained.

"In Winnipeg we have a population of around 750,000 people, but we have about 20 comic book shops — that's incredible," she says. "When those 'general population' people come in they see that all these stores exist and will go shop there after the fact."

And no matter who you are, the Comic Con is sure to have something to pique your interest. "There's so much to do, there's so much to see — you have to just come and experience it," she said. "There truly is something for everyone, no matter what you like or who you are."

CONTRIBUTED

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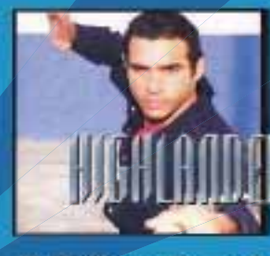

Adrian Paul

RBC Convention Centre WINNIPEG ticketmaster

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Gaming, Food Court, Beer Gardens

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- BaseLAN Registration

SECOND FLOOR
Artist Alley, Panels, Concert Series

- Members Registration
- One Day Ticket Holders
- Two Day / Weekend Ticket Holders
- 5K Tournament Registration
- Costume Contest Registration

THIRD FLOOR
Guest Alley, Photo Ops, Exhibitor Hall, Wrestling, Clubs

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Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 1,000 Ways To Be A Family. An inspiring section on the Canadian blog TheNewFamily.com, The 1,000 Families Project, looks at all the different variations on modern family life. Among the range of first-person stories is a recent entry from blog founder Brandie Weikle about her own "conscious uncoupling" with her ex long before Gwyneth Paltrow made the term infamous. Must read.

2 CDN vs American Beer. A Buzzfeed video has generated more than 370,000 views since being posted regarding a Canadian beer versus American beer taste test. In other words, more than 370,000 people have wasted time watching a video when everyone knows Canadian beer is the best and American beer sucks and tastes like water, eh?

3 Strombo & Kypreos. The pairing of George Stroumboulopoulos and Nick Kypreos is still getting mixed reaction a few weeks after the launch of the new Hockey Night In Canada. On their own, great. But their chemistry together? A tad awkward. This Hour Has 22 Minutes did a hilarious spoof recently showing Strombo on the set in his skinny jeans Instagramming selfies of himself with Kipper. Brilliant.

4 Kim Loves BlackBerry. Kim Kardashian West revealed this week that she is hoarding BlackBerry Bold phones out of fear that they will be discontinued, as she loves the keyboard for typing. "I love a BlackBerry, and every time I say that, people are horrified that I have a BlackBerry, and I don't understand that reaction." I have a BlackBerry, too, Kim, and get the same puzzled looks.

5 Robbie Williams. The singer decided to live-blog the birth of his second daughter with wife Ayda in Twitter pictures and YouTube videos. This was so wrong on so many levels, but yet you couldn't help but look. Because this is the age we live in where nothing is private. Luckily, the "coverage" concluded just before she went into labour.

6 Extra Hour Sleep! You might not have heard yet — so you can thank me — but this weekend Daylight Savings Time ends. Which means your clocks go back an hour. Which means you get a whole extra hour's sleep. Well, unless you're a parent with young kids. D'oh.

7 Halloween. The Boston Bruins have an amazing annual Halloween tradition where they visit Boston Children's Hospital. On Monday, they did again — dressing as characters from Disney's hit film Frozen. They even did renditions of Let It Go, which while not pretty were all great fun. Kudos.

8 #iBelieveThem. With more and more women coming forward about alleged assaults from Jian Ghomeshi, a tremendous show of support was displayed for these women on social media by people tweeting using the hashtags #iBelieveHer and #iBelieveThem in reference to the victims. As well, Jian's initial "defense" FB post has seen its popularity plummet with people unliking it in droves.

Metro Bitstrips caption contest

Today's winner: Samantha Fisher

Become a cartoon star!

Visit metro.bitstrips.com on your mobile device to create an avatar and add your caption to the next comic. The funniest entry will be printed here . Check out today's runners-up by scanning the cartoon with your Metro News app.

MetroTube

Just you and the keytar this Halloween?

AAAAAANDREW FRIGHTFIELD
==@metronews.ca

SCREENGRAB

Brett Domino is a talented and humble man. Talented because he can write a damn catchy pop tune, chops he showed off in an earlier video that boasted how easy it was to write a summer pop song. Humble because he thinks us regular folk can do it, too. Domino is back to rub it in our faces again, this time to show us how quickly he can whip up a Halloween pop jam. He tries to make it seem spookily simple. But really, he's just terrifyingly talented. (Brett Domino/YouTube)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: A woman claims to have captured paranormal audio in a historic building. Tell us a supernatural tale in 140 characters or less.

@DDGstyle: once upon a time there was a world where members of a rich, educated society valued science and rationality

@Canucklehead: I awoke to it in a daze. "Daddy," the small voice says from just outside my bedroom door, "Can I sleep with you?" I live alone.

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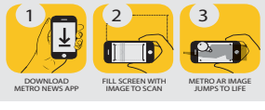

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Examining the night within us

Movies. As Maps to the Stars opens, Metro's Richard Crouse takes a look at director David Cronenberg's darkest works

Maps to the Stars opens in theatres this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

Hollywood — self-obsessed child that it is — enjoys turning the camera on itself, but with Maps to the Stars, director David Cronenberg uses the city as a palette to paint a picture of the stupid, venal and stratospherically self-involved behaviour that goes on behind the scenes in Beverly Hills's gated communities and back lots.

At the centre of the film are the Weisses, a Hollywood family (John Cusack, Olivia Williams and Evan Bird) with more secrets than TMZ's too-hot-to-handle file, Havana Segrand (Julianne Moore), a former big name actress who is now as messed up as she is washed up and Agatha (Mia Wasikowska), a burn victim with schizophrenia whose presence threatens to expose closely guarded secrets.

This may be the most sun-dappled film Cronenberg has ever made, but don't let the light fool you; it's also one of his darkest.

I say one of his darkest because the 71-year-old director has frequently visited what Victor Hugo called "night within us," provoking Village Voice to call him, "the most audacious and challenging narrative director in the English-speaking world."

Spider, a trip into the mind of a severely mentally disturbed man starring Ralph Fiennes, is a case in point. Called "Cronenberg's most depressingly bleak film," by critic Ken Hanke, the 2002 film sees Fiennes deliver a virtually dialogue-free performance as the title character. But it is Miranda Richardson as several characters — all the women in Spider's life — who really steals the show. It's a spooky, cerebral thriller.

The Brood is probably Cronenberg's most traditional horror film. Featuring murderous psychoplasmic kids, experimental psychotherapist Oliver Reed and Samantha Eggar as a fetus-licking mother, it is the very stuff that nightmares are made of. It's lesser seen than The Fly or Dead Zone and way more down-and-dirty, but for sheer scares it's hard to beat.

A Dangerous Mind, the tautly told story of two psychoanalysts you've heard of, Dr. Carl Jung (Michael Fassbender) and Sigmund Freud (Viggo Mortensen), plus one you've probably never heard of, Sabina Spielrein (Keira Knightley), sees Cronenberg combine a love story and birth of modern analysis.

The almost total lack of physical action means the focus is on the words. Some will see a film rich with dialogue, others will see it as verbose. But that's the kind of duality the movie explores.

Finally, in Cosmopolis, Cronenberg takes us along for an existential road trip through the breakdown of modern society. Based on a novel by Don DeLillo and starring Robert Pattinson as a controlling and self-destructive billionaire money manager, the movie covers the gamut of human experience, from haircuts, money and infidelity to asymmetrical prostates and mortality.

In Review

RICHARD CROUSE

Maps to the Stars

Director. David Cronenberg

Stars. Julianne Moore, John Cusack, Robert Pattinson, Mia Wasikowska

●●●●○

Hollywood points the camera on itself but not since The Player has the selfie provided such a wonderfully sadistic portrait of Tinsel Town. At the centre of David Cronenberg's film is a Hollywood family — played by John Cusack, Olivia Williams and Evan Bird. Orbiting them are a former big name actress (Julianne Moore) and a burn victim (Mia Wasikowska), whose presence threatens to expose closely guarded secrets. The terrific performances and decidedly un-Hollywood feel of this, the most Hollywood of Cronenberg's films, make Maps a compelling psychological thriller.

Cronenberg is a creature of comfort

David Cronenberg may have a career that's lasted nearly five decades but he's still discovering his muses. His latest film, Maps to the Stars, notably marks a reunion with actor Robert Pattinson. "It's exciting to cast an actor that you worked with and you get along with," said Cronenberg. "It gives you comfort in that you have a comrade in arms who you know will not crack." In light of Maps' theatrical release on Friday, we take a look at Cronenberg's favourite young comrades.

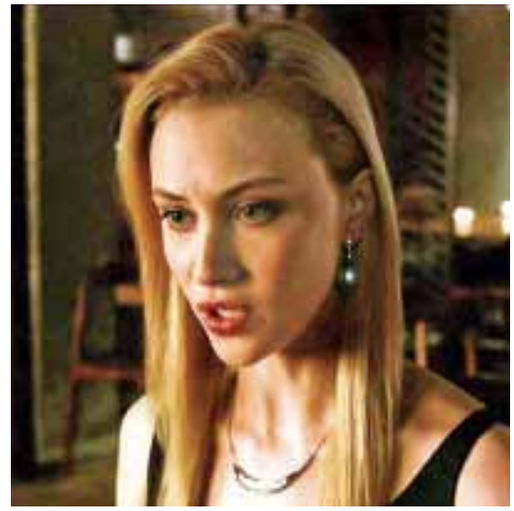
STEVE GOW scene@metronews.ca

Robert Pattinson

History: Maps to the Stars marks the second partnership with Cronenberg after Cosmopolis. In the 2013 film, he played a powerful billionaire being chauffeured in his limo. In Maps, he's a naïve limo driver desperate to be a star.

Cronenberg: "Rob is a lovely sweet guy to work with. Of course he's got charisma because he wouldn't have been the success that he was, even in Twilight, without having something, but I think he's much more chameleon-like than people give him credit for."

Sarah Gadon



History: Gadon is perhaps Cronenberg's most frequent muse, with three collaborations in her filmography (Maps, A Dangerous Method and Cosmopolis). In fact, the Toronto talent is practically part of the family now having also starred in the 2012 thriller Antiviral (directed by David's son, Brandon).

Cronenberg: "She's really magical. She's got such an amazing presence and face, great voice and (she's) tough artistically — she's not afraid of anything."

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Viggo Mortensen

History: Cronenberg may be partly responsible for the actor's sole Oscar nomination, for a wrenching role in Eastern Promises, but don't overlook the duo's other captivating collaborations: A History of Violence and the Sigmund Freud biopic, A Dangerous Method.

Cronenberg: "Getting Viggo to play Freud, he's never done anything like that. It's scary for both of us but he had to trust me. He didn't think he could do it, but once he plugged into it and you get the fake nose and he puts on some weight and suddenly the beard — it's Freud!"

Horror. Canadian filmmaker and FX man scares with scarce cash

Winnipeg-born, Toronto-based FX wizard Steven Kostanski (of gonzo collective ASTRON-6) learned about the ABC's of filmmaking while making his beloved, invisibly budgeted contemporary cult classics Father's Day and Manborg, outrageously innovative genre send-ups that exemplified his maverick sensibility.

So it makes sense, then, that Kostanski's latest bid for strange cinema infamy lies within the body of a film called the ABC's of Death 2 (opening today in select Canadian markets), the go-for-broke sequel to 2012's horror hit.

In it, two-dozen-plus directors (including Canada's The Soska Sisters and Vincenzo Natali) were given a random letter of the English alphabet, a modest chunk of money and allowed to let their imaginations run wild. Kostanski and his crew got 'W' and designed his segment, 'W is for Wish' accordingly.

"Our entry was based on an idea that we had already been developing," says the visionary director.

"It was sort of a play on the old He-Man toys and I had already started developing a toy line surrounding the concept. So when we got asked to do The ABC's of Death, I thought, OK, let's combine toys with the movie and have these kids sucked in a fantasy universe and realize the toys in live action."

And that's what happens in W is for Wish, the critical favourite of the anthology — a mock commercial in which two eager lads playing with their gladiator toys are warped into an ultra-violent hell of bloody battles and brutal kink. The segment is as ingenious as it is hilarious.

"Like everything I make, W is for Wish started out as a simple idea that got considerably more complicated as we went along, and then ended up costing considerably more," says Kostanski.

"And of course, I had to kick in my own money to finish it. I'd say that everybody involved in The ABC's of Death 2 are working professionally in film, and like them, I found it hard to meet timelines, so I was literally finishing it at night while working doing FX on the new Guillermo del Toro film Crimson Peak during the day."

Kostanski's eye for design, unsubtle wit and ability to wear many hats has given him a reputation as an artist who can make a dime look like a dollar, and one wonders what in the world he'd ever do if — God forbid — someone actually gave him a sizeable budget to play with.

"If I ever had real money, I'd pay people for a change, I think," says the filmmaker, only half joking.

"But low budgets keep you creative; they keep the brain working. So I'm fine where I am for now."

CHRIS ALEXANDER/METRO

W is for Wish is Steven Kostanski's submission to the ABC's of Death 2 film anthology. CONTRIBUTED

Now in theatres

Mystery & Suspense

Horns

Director. Alexandre Aja

Stars. James Remar, Daniel Radcliffe

Based on the novel by Joe Hill, Horns is a supernatural thriller. The film follows Ig Perrish (Daniel Radcliffe), the No. 1 suspect for the violent rape and murder of his girlfriend, Merrin (Juno Temple). Hungover from a night of hard drinking, Ig awakens one morning to find horns starting to grow from his own head and soon realizes their power drives people to confess their sins.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 58% Audience: 93%

Drama

Nightcrawler

Director. Dan Gilroy

Stars. Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo

Nightcrawler is a pulse-pounding thriller set in the underbelly of contemporary Los Angeles. Jake Gyllenhaal stars as Lou Bloom, a driven young man desperate for work who discovers the high-speed world of L.A. crime journalism. Finding a group of freelance camera crews who film crashes, fires, murder and other mayhem, Lou muscles into the cut-throat, dangerous realm of nightcrawling.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 89% Audience: 90%

"I'm looking for something more long term."
RECYCLING REMINDER
#9
Recycle your plastic bags, just not in your recycling cart. Bring them to one of many retailers with collection bins.
Make the break. SimplyRecycle.ca
MMSM
Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba
INDUSTRY FUNDING RECYCLING

Superhero nirvana

Marvel announced its slate of films coming out between now and 2019. We put together this handy guide to keep you apprised of the superhero franchise.

METRO, ASSOCIATED PRESS, AFP scene@metronews.ca

May 1, 2015

The Avengers: Age of Ultron

Need to know: The plot, according to IMDB.com, sees things go awry when Tony Stark — Iron Man — tries to jumpstart a dormant peacekeeping program. The villainous Ultron is voiced by James Spader.

July 17, 2015

Ant-Man

Need to know: Peyton Reed is directing this story of a former con-man who can shrink when he dons a super-suit. Paul Rudd will star as Ant-Man, along with Evangeline Lilly, Michael Peña and Michael Douglas.

May 6, 2016

Captain America: Civil War

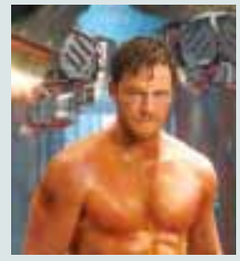
Need to know: Civil War will pit Captain America and Iron Man against each other and will also mark the debut of Black Panther to the film franchise.

Nov. 4, 2016

Doctor Strange

Need to know: British actor Benedict Cumberbatch has been widely rumoured to be tapped to play Doctor Strange, a sorcery-centric protector of Earth.

May 5, 2017



Guardians of the Galaxy 2

Need to know: No plot synopsis has been released, but James Gunn is scheduled to again write and direct the follow up to his 2014 Guardians film.

July 28, 2017

Thor: Ragnarok

Need to know: In the comics, Ragnarok is a cyberg-clone of Thor, created by Tony Stark and members of the Avengers after Thor goes missing.

Nov. 3, 2017

Black Panther

Need to know: Chadwick Boseman is slated to portray Black Panther. In the comics, Black Panther is the leader of the fictional African nation of Wakanda who becomes a member of The Avengers.

May 4, 2018/May 3, 2019

The Avengers: Infinity War Parts I and II

Need to know: The third film is split. The details are scant, but comic series centred on the Infinity Gauntlet, which gives its possessor godlike powers.

July 6, 2018

Captain Marvel

Need to know: Captain Marvel marks the studio's first films centred on a woman from Marvel comics. The iteration will be Carol Danvers, an Air Force officer whose adventures take her into space.

Nov. 2, 2018

Inhumans

Need to know: The Inhumans are a race of superhumans who first appeared in Marvel in the 1960s.

Studio survival

Superheroes reap super returns

Money-makers: So-called "tent pole" films — big money-making movies that are often sequels to tried-and-tested blockbusters — are increasingly important to studios, as the movie-watching experience fragments with online viewing. The first Avengers movie and last year's Iron Man 3 are among the top five grossing films ever, together earning more than $2.7 billion worldwide.

DC Comics: In mid-October, Warner Bros. announced a slate of 10 films based on DC Comics characters, including The Flash, Aquaman, Cyborg, Wonder Woman and Shazam.

Crawling through the night with Rene Russo

Q&A. Self-confirmed night owl confronts the morality of paparazzi crossing privacy boundaries

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

What's Rene Russo been up to lately? Staying up late, avoiding restaurants that tip-off TMZ and worrying about drones. So you know, the usual. In Nightcrawler, written and directed by her husband Dan Gilroy, Russo stars as a tough but desperate news director at a failing L.A. station who turns to a freelance videographer (Jake Gyllenhaal) for some sensational footage.

At what point did Dan first tell you about this idea?

A long time ago he told me about it. He came home one day and told me about nightcrawlers. I had no idea.

I have a friend and I'm a night person, and I'll be out at 2 o'clock in the morning. So now I'm looking around me going, "Whoa, is that a nightcrawler?"

You have a habit of going out late at night?

Nighttime for me is really magical. I love the night. I'll just go out into my back yard and look at the moon at night.

I've seen some beautiful moonsets.

The work that these guys do made me think of paparazzi.

Look, here's the deal with that: I am not Angelina Jolie. I can pretty much go out of my house.

Has TMZ come up to me?

Yes. I deal with things with humour. This is what it is, so have some fun.

But I am not Lindsay Lohan, that's not who I am. I think if that were my life, it would be very different, it would be really, really hard for me. Because I'm very private.

Rene Russo and Jake Gyllenhaal star in Nightcrawler. CONTRIBUTED

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 31 TO THURS., NOV. 6. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Cinema City McGillivray
2190 McGillivray Blvd.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 5-7:20-9:40 Sat 12:30-2:45-5-7:20-9:40 Sun 1:35-4-6:50-9:15 Mon 5:15-7:45 Tue 5-7:20-9:40 Wed 5:15-7:45 Thu 5:15

The Best of Me (14A) Fri-Sun 9:20 Mon 8:10 Tue 9:20 Wed 8:10 Thu 8:30

Big Hero 6 3D (G) Thu 7-9:35

The Book of Life (G) Sat-Sun 1:30

The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:05-6:45 Mon 5:20 Tue 4:05-6:45 Wed 5:20 Thu 4:30

Fury (18A) Fri 4:10-7:25-10:30 Sat 12:45-4:10-7:25-10:30 Sun 2-5:15-8:30 Mon 5:05-8:20 Tue 4:10-7:25-10:30 Wed-Thu 5:05-8:20 Fri 7:15-10:45 Sat 4:25-7-10:30 Sun 4-6-9 Mon 7 Tue 7:15-10:45 Wed 7

Gone Girl (18A) Fri 6:45-10:10 Sat 12-3:25-6:45-10:10 Sun 1:20-4:45-8:15 Mon 5-8:25 Tue 6:45-10:10 Wed-Thu 5-8:25

Interstellar (PG) No Passes Thu 8

John Wick (18A) Fri 5:10-8-10:35 Sat 2:15-5:10-8-10:35 Sun 1:30-4:10-7:05-9:50 Mon 5-8 Tue 5:10-8-10:35 Wed-Thu 5-8 Fri 6:45-10:15 Sat 4:05-6:30-10:05 Sun 3:15-6:30-10 Mon 8:20 Tue 6:45-10:15 Wed 8:20

Nightcrawler (14A) Fri 4-7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:45 Mon 5:30-8:30 Tue 4-7-9:45 Wed-Thu 5:30-8:30 Fri 7:45-9:25 Sat 3:30-7:30-9:20 Sun 3:30-7-9:20 Mon 7:40 Tue 7:45-9:25 Wed 7:40 Thu 7:30

Ouija (PG) Fri 5:30-8:05-10:25 Sat 12:35-3:10-5:30-8:05-10:25 Sun 1:50-4:20-7:10-9:35 Mon 5:45-9 Tue 5:30-8:05-10:25 Wed-Thu 5:45-9

St. Vincent (14A) Fri 4:15-7:30-10:15 Sat 1:25-4:15-7:30-10:15 Sun 1:25-4:15-7:20-10 Mon 5:10-8:05 Tue 4:15-7:30-10:15 Wed-Thu 5:10-8:05

Cinema City Northgate
1399 McPhillips Street

Dolphin Tale 2 (G) Fri 6:45 Sat-Sun 1:10-6:45 Mon-Thu 5:30

Happy New Year (PG) Fri 8:15 Sat-Sun 1-4:35-8:15 Mon-Thu 7:30

The Hundred-Foot Journey (G) Fri 9:20 Sat-Sun 4:15-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:55

Let's Be Cops (14A) Fri 9:45 Sat-Sun 3:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 8

No Good Deed (14A) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:25

Step Up: All In (PG) Sat-Sun 1:40

Step Up: All In 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7 Mon-Thu 5:20

Swearnet (18A) Fri 7:10-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG) Sat-Sun 1:30

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 4:30-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:05

This Is Where I Leave You (14A) Fri 7:20-9:35 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:45-7:20-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:20

The Trial (PG) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:50

Cinematheque
304-100 Arthur

Altman (STC) Sat 7 Sun 2 Thu 7

Night Moves (STC) Sat 9 Sun 7 Thu 9

No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Wed

Prom Night (STC) Fri 9

Shivers (STC) Fri 7

City Cinema - Northgate
1399 McPhillips

Dolphin Tale 2 (G) Fri 6:45 Sat-Sun 1:10-6:45 Mon-Thu 5:30

Happy New Year (PG) Fri 8:15 Sat-Sun 1-4:35-8:15 Mon-Thu 7:30

The Hundred-Foot Journey (G) Fri 9:20 Sat-Sun 4:15-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:55

Let's Be Cops (14A) Fri 9:45 Sat-Sun 3:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 8

No Good Deed (14A) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:25

Step Up: All In (PG) Sat-Sun 1:40

Step Up: All In 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7 Mon-Thu 5:20

Swearnet (18A) Fri 7:10-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 4:30-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:05 Sat-Sun 1:30

Ouija. CONTRIBUTED

Exclusively online

Did you know Resident Evil: Afterlife is the top-grossing Canadian film of all time? Learn more about Canuck movies at metronews.ca/abcsofcanadianfilm

This Is Where I Leave You (14A) Fri 7:20-9:35 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:45-7:20-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:20

The Trial (PG) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:50

Famous Players Kildonan Place, 1555 Regent Ave W.

Annabelle (14A) Fri-Sun 10:10 Mon-Thu 8:30

The Best of Me (14A) Fri 4:20-7:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30

The Book of Life (G) Sat-Sun 1:10 Thu 5:30

The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:15-7:10 Mon-Wed 5:30

Fury (18A) Fri 4-7-10:15 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20

Gone Girl (18A) Fri 3:30-6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-6:50-9:40 Mon-Wed 5:20-8 Thu 5:20

Interstellar (PG) No Passes Thu 8

John Wick (18A) Fri 4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:30-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10

Ouija (PG) Fri 4:40-7:40-10 Sat-Sun 2-4:40-7:40-10 Mon-Thu 6-8:15

Grant Park 8 Cinemas
1120 Grant Ave.

Big Hero 6 3D (G) Thu 6:30-7-9:45

Casper (STC) No Passes Fri 4:30

The Exorcist (STC) No Passes Fri 9

Fury (18A) No Passes Fri 6:55-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:20-3:25-6:55-9:50

Gone Girl (18A) No Passes Fri 3:20-6:30-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:30-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:20-6:30-9:40

Interstellar (PG) No Passes Thu 8-8:30

The Judge (14A) No Passes Fri 3:30-6:40-9:35 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:35 No Passes Mon-Wed 3:30-6:40-9:35 No Passes Thu 3:30

Maps to the Stars (18A) No Passes Fri-Sat 3:50-7:10-9:55 No Passes Sun 12:40-3:50-7:10-9:55 No Passes Mon-Wed 3:50-7:10-9:55 No Passes Thu 9:55 No Passes Sat 12:40 No Passes Thu 3:50-7:10

My Old Lady (PG) No Passes Fri 3:40-6:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:50-9:55 No Passes Mon 6:50 No Passes Thu 3:40 No Passes Mon 3:40-9:55

Nightcrawler (14A) No Passes Fri 4:05-7:15-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4:05-7:15-10:10 No Passes Mon-Wed 4:05-7:15-10:10 No Passes Thu 4:05

A Nightmare on Elm Street (STC) No Passes Fri 11:25

Ouija (PG) No Passes Fri 4:10-7:05-10:05 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:05-4:10-7:05-10:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05-10:05

St. Vincent (14A) No Passes Fri 4-7-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50-4-7-10 No Passes Mon-Wed 4-7-10 No Passes Thu 4 No Passes Thu 10

Landmark Towne Cinema 8
301 Notre Dame Avenue

Annabelle (14A) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:55-7-9:15 Mon-Wed 7-9:15

Big Hero 6 3D (G) Thu 7-9:30

The Book of Life (G) Fri 6:50-9:05 Sat-Sun 4:20-6:50-9:05 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:05

The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri 6:50-9:05 Sat-Sun 1:35-6:50-9:05 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:05

Dracula Untold (PG) Fri 7:15-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:10-7:15-9:25 Mon-Wed 7:15-9:25

Fury (18A) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:45-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:40

Interstellar (PG) Thu 8-8:30

John Wick (18A) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:05-4-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30

The Maze Runner (G) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-6:40-9:20 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:20 Nightcrawler (14A) Fri 6:55-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-6:55-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:35

Ouija (PG) Fri 7:05-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:30-7:05-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:10

SilverCity Polo Park
815 St. James Street

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 2-4:10-6:50-10:20 Sat 11:30-11:50-2-4:10-6:50-10:20 Sun 2-4:10-6:50-10:30 Mon-Wed 2-4:10-6:50-10:20 Thu 2-4:10

Annabelle (14A) Fri 3:05-5:30-8-10:40 Sat 12:20-3:05-5:30-8-10:40 Sun 12:35-3:05-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 3:05-5:30-8-10:30

Before I Go to Sleep (14A) Fri 3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Sat-Sun 1-3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Mon-Tue 3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Wed 5:40-8-10:20 Thu 3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30

The Best of Me (14A) Fri 1:40-7:30 Sat 10:55-1:40-7:30 Sun-Thu 1:40-7:30

Big Hero 6 3D (G) Thu 7-10

The Book of Life (G) Fri 2:55 Sat 11:05-12:05-2:55 Sun 12:30-2:55 Mon-Thu 1:55

The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Thu 5:20-7:45-10:10

David Bowie Is (PG) Thu 7:25

Dracula Untold (PG) Fri 2:40-5-7:40-10:05 Sat 12:15-2:40-5-7:40-10:05 Sun 12:45-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15 Mon 1:55-4:15-10:05 Tue-Wed 2:40-5-7:40-10:05 Thu 2:40-5-10:05

Fury (18A) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:20-7:20-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:20-7:20-9:55 Mon 2:10-4:20-7:20-9:55 Tue 2:10-4:20-7:20-10 Wed 2:10-4:25-7:20-9:55 Thu 2:10-4:20-7:20-9:55

Gone Girl (18A) Fri 3:30-6:55-9:15 Sat 11:55-3:30-6:55-9:15 Sun 12:30-3:45-7:10-9:10 Mon-Wed 3:30-6:55-9:10 Thu 3:30-6:55-9:50

Guardians of the Galaxy (PG) Fri 1:35 Mon-Thu 1:35

Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 4:20-7:05-9:55 Sun 4:05-6:50-9:40 Mon-Tue 4:20-7:25-10:15 Wed-Thu 4:20-10:15

Interstellar: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Thu 9

John Wick: The IMAX Experience (18A) Fri 3-5:30-7:55-10:25 Sat 12:10-3-5:30-7:55-10:25 Sun 12:35-3-5:25-7:55-10:25 Mon-Wed 3-5:30-7:55-10:25 Thu 3-5:30

Maps to the Stars (18A) Fri-Wed 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:50 Thu 1:50-4:30-7:10-10:20

The Maze Runner (G) Fri-Sat 4:40-10:30 Sun-Wed 4:40-10:20 Thu 4:20-10:20

The Metropolitan Opera: Carmen (STC) Sat 11:55

National Theater Live: Of Mice and Men (STC) Thu 7

Nightcrawler (14A) Fri 1:45-4:40-7:25-10:35 Sat 11-1:45-4:40-7:25-10:35 Sun-Tue 1:30-4:15-7:05-10 Wed 4:15-7:05-10 Thu 1:30-4:15-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30

Ouija (PG) Fri 2:30-4:55-7:35-9:55 Sat 2:05-4:55-7:35-9:55 Sun 1:50-4:55-7:35-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:30-4:55-7:35-10:30

Rango (PG) Sat 11

St. Vincent (14A) Fri 1:45-4:25-7:15-10 Sat 11:15-1:45-4:25-7:15-10 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:15-10

Vikings From the British Museum (G) Sun 12:55 Wed 7:30

SilverCity St. Vital
110-1225 St Mary's Rd.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 2-5:15-7:30-10 Sat 11:25-12:30-2:45-5:05-7:30-10 Sun 1:45-5:15-7:30-10 Mon-Wed 2-5:15-7:25-10 Thu 4:45 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1:30

Annabelle (14A) Fri-Sat 10:30 Sun 10:20 Mon-Thu 10:15

The Best of Me (14A) Fri 2-4:40-7:20-10:05 Sat 4:10-7:20-10:05 Sun 1:50-4:40-7:20-10:05 Mon-Tue 2-4:40-7:20-10:05 Wed 2-4:40-10 Thu 1:45-4:40-7:20-10:05

Big Hero 6 3D (G) Thu 7:05-10

The Book of Life (G) Fri 2:30 Sat 11:25-12:05-2:30 Sun-Thu 2:30

The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5-7:25-9:50 Mon-Thu 5-7:25-9:45

Dracula Untold (PG) Fri-Sun 2:20-4:45-7:15-9:45 Mon-Wed 2:20-4:45-7:15-9:40 Thu 2:20-4:45

Fury (18A) Fri 2:15-4-7-10:05 Sat 12:50-4-7-10:05 Sun-Wed 2:15-4-7-10 Thu 4-7-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1:30

Gone Girl (18A) Fri 2:15-6:40-9:45 Sat 11:50-3:10-6:40-9:45 Sun 2:15-6:40-9:45 Mon-Wed 2:15-6:40-9:40 Thu 2:10-6:40-9:55

Interstellar (PG) No Passes Thu 9

John Wick (18A) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:15 Mon-Tue 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:10 Wed 2-4:20-7:30-10:10 Thu 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:10

The Maze Runner (G) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:50-7:40 Mon-Wed 2:05-4:50-7:35 Thu 1:50-4:50-7:35

The Metropolitan Opera: Carmen (STC) Sat 11:55

Nightcrawler (14A) Fri-Sat 2-4:45-7:35-10:25 Sun 2-4:45-7:35-10:20 Mon-Wed 2-4:45-7:30-10:15 Thu 7:15-10 Thu 2-5

Ouija (PG) Fri 2:10-4:20-5:30-7:55-10:20 Sat 12:50-3:05-5:30-7:55-10:20 Sun 1:55-4:20-5:30-7:55-10:15 Mon-Wed 2:05-4:20-5:30-7:50-10:10 Thu 1:55-4:20-5:30-7:50-10:10

Rango (PG) Sat 11

Kendall and Kylie Jenner ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Dreams dashed for Kendall and Kylie as fans aren't buying what they're selling

They can't all be bestsellers, apparently. Since debuting in June, the sci-fi YA novel "written" by Kendall and Kylie Jenner, Rebels: City of Indra, has sold just 13,000 copies, which is totally not cute. So it's safe to assume the teens' long-term goals of launching a film franchise based on the book aren't going to pan out either. "We were saying, if we were to do a movie, like, what would we want to do?" one of them explained during an interview with Good Morning America promoting the book's launch. "Like, if we were to be in it, like what movie would we want to be in?" That's a pretty big "if," young lady.

Aniston comes clean after being spotted without engagement ring

Several corners of the Celebrity Industrial Complex quaked with fear this week when Jennifer Aniston was spotted without the flashy engagement ring given to her by fiancé Justin Theroux. Was everything OK between the pair? Is the wedding off? Which Friends co-star will she turn to first for comfort? But don't worry, false alarm everyone. "Everyone should calm down," Aniston's rep says. "The ring was just being cleaned and is safely back on her hand." Oh good. By the way, I hope can we start a trend of beginning every official statement with "Everyone should calm down." Or is that usually implied?

Jennifer Aniston

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

What are the Terminator producers secretly up to?

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

It was probably foolish to have any optimism at all about the new Terminator film due next summer — especially once its title, Terminator Genisys, was revealed. But now any hope for a decent entry into the franchise is gone.

In a first look at the film in Entertainment Weekly, some extremely troubling plot details are revealed: In this edition, young Sarah Connor (now played by Games of Thrones star Emilia Clarke) "was orphaned by a Terminator at the age of nine. Since then, she's been raised by ... (Arnold) Schwarzenegger's Terminator — an older T-800 she calls Pops — who is programmed to guard rather than kill."

So does this mean that they're undoing the events of the first two films? Which happen to be the only good ones in the franchise? The film's production wrapped in August, but maybe it's not too late to send a screenwriter back in time and fix this.

But the news does at least feed into my Terminator behind-the-scenes theory: After defying the odds and making an awesome low-budget sci-fi movie followed by a groundbreaking, genre-defining sequel, the producers realized they could never top themselves, so they secretly set out to make each film successively worse. I didn't say it was a good plan.

Is it too late to scrap this movie and just bring back The Sarah Connor Chronicles?

Ben Affleck

Pass the sprinkles! Affleck and Damon bond over frozen yogurt

Ben Affleck finally returned Matt Damon's phone calls, apparently, as the Good Will Hunting scribes are teaming up to executive produce a new single-camera sitcom from 30 Rock writer Colleen McGuinness for Fox. And while the show doesn't have a title yet, it does have a ridiculously awesome-sounding premise: A young frozen yogurt shop employee suddenly discovers she has telekinetic powers. Sign me up.

Twitter

@marcmaron
I'm sitting at home pretending like I'm comfortable with myself.

@JuddApatow
I haven't done cardio since April. That sounds fancy. Haven't gotten off my ass since April. Just not into movement. Laying feels better

@SarahKSilverman
You really cant see the depravity of pornography until immediately after orgasming

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Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Give dessert a disguise

Zebra Cake. Cutting into this dessert offers a delicious surprise

RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

This recipe serves 10. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups (625 ml) unbleached all-purpose flour, sifted
- 2 1/2 tsp (12 1/2 ml) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) sugar
- 1 tsp (5 ml) vanilla extract
- 1 cup (250 ml) canola oil
- 1 cup (250 ml) milk
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) cocoa powder, sifted
- Two 3 tbsp (45 ml) ice cream scoops

Chocolate Ganache

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) warm 34% cream
- 3 oz (85 g) dark chocolate, chopped

Icing

- 1 cup (250 ml) icing sugar
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) water

1. With rack in middle position, preheat oven to 350 F.

2. Butter 8-inch (20 cm) springform pan and line bottom with parchment paper. Set aside.

3. In a bowl, combine flour, baking powder, salt. Set aside.

4. In another bowl, beat eggs with the sugar and vanilla until the mixture lightens and forms a ribbon. Drizzle in the oil while beating. At low speed, add the dry ingredients alternately with the milk until smooth.

5. Divide batter evenly into two separate bowls. Whisk cocoa powder into one of the bowls.

6. With 3 tbsp (45 ml) ice cream scoop, pour chocolate batter in centre of pan and allow to spread 20 seconds. With second ice cream scoop, pour same amount of vanilla batter in centre of chocolate batter. Allow again to spread 20 seconds. Repeat two steps alternately until all batter as been used. Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the centre of cake comes out clean. Let cool for 15 minutes. Unmould from the pan and let cool completely on a wire rack.

Chocolate Ganache

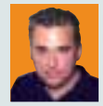
1. In a bowl, pour cream over dark chocolate. Let melt 1 minute. Whisk until smooth. Spread ganache on cake, letting it slightly run down the sides.

Icing

1. In bowl, combine 1 cup (250 ml) of icing sugar with 1 tbsp (15 ml) of water. With pastry bag fitted with small tip, apply spiral of icing on ganache. From centre of spiral, drag tip of a knife outward to form a spider web. **FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED THIS SEPTEMBER!**

Liquid Assets

An array of ghoulish sips



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Halloween treats aren't just made for kids.

The variety of All Hallows' Eve-inspired adult libations has never been greater, which means you can have a sip of the season while waiting for fairy princesses and geeks in homemade hazmat suits to come knocking on your door.

Pumpkin beers are all the rage. The Maritimes can get its gourd on thanks to Propeller Brewery's Pumpkin Ale (6x341ml, $13.25). For Ontario, craft beer fans have Great Lakes' Pumpkin Ale (650ml, $4.95). And readers out west can enjoy Howe Sound's Pumpkineater Imperial Pumpkin Ale (1L, $8.75).

SNL veteran Dan Aykroyd ships his Crystal Head Vodka ($44.98 - $54.99) in a spooky bottle shaped like a human skull, making it the ultimate way to Halloween-up your Bloody Caesar.

In wine, the devil is hotter than, well, you know where. The just-released 2012 Diabolica Red ($13.99 - $18.99) is from B.C.'s Okanagan Valley. A merlot-led blend of five grapes, its balanced mix of cherry and red licorice tastes heavenly.

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Jets let Devils off the hook

NHL. Winnipeg allows tying goal with under four minutes left before falling in shootout in New Jersey

Jacob Josefson scored the lone goal in the shootout, and Cory Schneider made it stand up as the New Jersey Devils ended their tiebreaker frustration with a come-from-behind 2-1 victory over the Winnipeg Jets on Thursday night.

Michael Ryder forced overtime for New Jersey, scoring the tying goal with 3:27 left in regulation. The Devils earned the shootout victory after losing all 13 last season and one other this season.

Blake Wheeler, who led the Jets with 28 goals last season, netted his fourth of the season in the first period.

Josefson, the Devils' second shootout shooter, lifted a shot over sprawling goalie Ondrej Pavelec.

New Jersey earned its first home victory in four games and snapped the Jets' two-game winning streak.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The New Jersey Devils celebrate Michael Ryder's game-tying goal on Jets goalie Ondrej Pavelec on Thursday night in Newark, N.J. The Devils won 2-1 in a shootout. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

NHL. Pens use shut-down powers against Kings

Marc-Andre Fleury made 35 saves in his 30th NHL shutout, and Chris Kunitz had two goals in a three-point game to lift the Penguins to a 3-0 victory over the Los Angeles Kings 3-0 on Thursday night in Pittsburgh.

Kris Letang scored his first goal of the season, and Evgeni Malkin became the fifth player in team history to register 400 assists as the Penguins used their dominant power play and a steady performance from Fleury to hand the defending champion Kings just their second regulation loss.

Pittsburgh went 2 for 6 with the man advantage, including two first-period goals that put the Kings on their heels.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Penguins forward Chris Kunitz, left, celebrates his first of two goals against the Kings with teammate Kris Letang on Thursday night in Pittsburgh.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

BoSox sign closer through 2016

The Boston Red Sox have signed closer Koji Uehara for two more years.

The all-star reliever will earn $18 million through 2016.

Uehara joined the Red Sox in 2013 and earned the closer's role midway through the season. He was a key part of the team that won the franchise's third World Series in 10 years, striking out Matt Carpenter for the final out in Game 6 last year.

He finished 2014 with a 6-5 record and an ERA of 2.52.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL. Pats trying not to overthink Manning task

Devin McCourty won't allow himself to get caught up in Peyton Manning's pre-snap antics on Sunday.

New England's Pro Bowl safety can't afford to. He'll end up losing.

"I would say the chess game is pretty one-sided. It's like being a kid going against a father in chess," McCourty said of trying to anticipate Manning's moves. "He's a very smart quarterback. He knows what he wants to do. Most of the time he knows what the defence is in, so if what he had planned isn't going to work, he's going to get the offence in something else.

"You don't want to try to overthink yourselves and really don't want to try to outsmart Peyton Manning."

It's been quite some time since anybody has done that.

New England's second-ranked passing defence gets its chance Sunday afternoon when Manning and the Denver Broncos (6-1) travel to Gillette Stadium for a midseason showdown with the Patriots (6-2).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I see no weaknesses in his game."

Pats coach Bill Belichick on Peyton Manning

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Bochy not the type to count his chickens

Superstitious. Talk of a 'dynasty' made the Giants manager nervous prior to sealing World Series win

Tim Hudson celebrates with Madison Bumgarner of the San Francisco Giants on the field after defeating the Kansas City Royals 3-2 to win Game 7 of the 2014 World Series on Wednesday night. GETTY IMAGES

Bruce Bochy is crazy superstitious. It's a little-known fact about the unflappable San Francisco Giants manager.

Mere mention of anything about a dynasty during the World Series made him uncomfortable. He felt equally uneasy when his name got linked to the best skippers of all time — those Hall of Famers he well could join someday.

Bochy doesn't have to worry about a jinx now. After the team won its third championship in five seasons, its new label looks as if it will stick.

"Dynasty" blared from the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle on Thursday.

The Giants closed it out with a 3-2 win in Game 7 at Kansas City on Wednesday night, sealed by Series MVP Madison Bumgarner's five shutout innings, as a reliever this time.

"A lot has to go right. First off, it starts with the talent," Bochy said. "I mean, you need that, which we have. Then you have to deal with a lot of things maybe during the season. Every manager says, 'Hey, we're fine, we have a good chance to get there if we stay healthy.' But that doesn't always happen."

In a remarkable every-other-year pattern, San Francisco somehow finds its best form in even years. With new faces and old ones, with castoffs and misfits and some key mid-season acquisitions.

Few clubs have captured three championships in a five-year span. The last National League team to do it was the St. Louis Cardinals with Stan Musial from 1942-46, so the Giants are the first of the free-agency era.

The Oakland Athletics won three straight crowns in the early 1970s, and the New York Yankees captured four in five years from 1996-2000.

Still, San Francisco was never considered a favourite or the best team in the regular season any of these times. Twice in this stretch, the Giants missed the playoffs altogether.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eyes on the prize

Canada's Milos Raonic stays focused against Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut during their third-round match at the Paris Masters tournament on Thursday. Raonic defeated Bautista Agut 7-5, 7-6 (7) to advance to a quarter-final with world No. 2 Roger Federer of Switzerland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	3	7	8	6	1	9	5	4
6	4	8	5	2	9	7	1	3
1	9	5	4	3	7	8	6	2
7	5	9	6	1	2	4	3	8
3	6	4	9	7	8	1	2	5
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
5	8	3	1	9	6	2	4	7
4	7	1	2	8	3	5	9	6
9	2	6	7	5	4	3	8	1

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

2	6						5	
7				5	9			4
				4	2		9	
	1						6	
	4		8	9				
3			2	7				8
	8						4	5

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You have a reputation for acting on impulse but today and over the weekend you will show it is not entirely deserved. For best results, think about where you would like to be and what you would like to be doing a year from now.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Just because something is popular does not mean you have to join in with it too. You are unlikely to be successful if you slavishly follow the herd.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have strong opinions about certain issues and will make sure they get heard over the next 24 hours. You must though expect to arouse equally strong opinions in other people.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If your instincts tell you that an offer is too good to be true then you must turn it down, no matter how much others promise you will gain. There is no such thing as a sure thing.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The more difficult a task is, the more determined you will be to make a success of it. With help from Mars and Jupiter over the next few days you'll go a long way by this time next week.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
There is something you need and there is only one person who can give it to you, so like it or not you are going to have to ask. If you are honest about your dilemma they will go out of their way to help you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
According to the planets a friend or family member is going through a bad patch and you alone can help them get out of it. Start by making them realize that it's not nearly the end of the world. Nothing is ever as bad as it seems.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What others expect of you bears no relation to what you expect of yourself, so there is room for confusion. Tell them that your plans come first.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may not realize it yet but you are on the cusp of a turning point in your life, one you will look back on in years to come and say, "That's when it started get good". Good things can happen today as well, if you let them.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may not enjoy the situation you find yourself in today but the good news is if you take the chance to deal with it now it won't bug you again.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may not want to hurt a friend's feelings by saying something brutal but you are beginning to realize it may be the only way to make them see sense. Time for tough love.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't be afraid to take on more duties over the next few days, especially if you are involved in a joint creative project. The deeper you get involved, the better things will turn out — and you'll get the praise.

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

metro AR

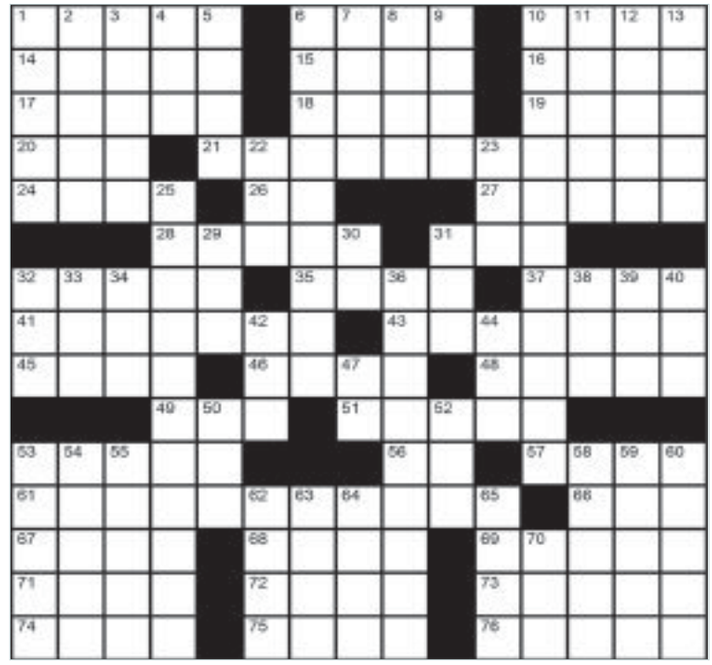
→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Yesterday's Crossword

Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across

1. Halloween haunter
6. Commotions
10. Nero's 1104
14. Sharp object
15. "Falling Skies" star Mr. Wyle
16. First-rate
17. "He Knows You're __" (1980)
18. "Black Swan" (2010) garb
19. __ and gore
20. Canal city in Italy [abbr.]
21. 1985 Roddy McDowall thriller: 2 wds.
24. Green-__ monster
26. Hosp. drip
27. Pains
28. Sharp-__ (Like a knife)
31. Sit-ups targets
32. Ritual site
35. Nopes
37. Snaky spots
41. He died Hallowe-en 1926
43. Halloween Treats ...chocolate bar!: 2 wds.
45. Dr. Frankenstein's helper
46. Indigo
48. __ days
49. Wrath
51. Disinfectant brand
53. Torment
56. __-Fi
57. Fight
61. 2000 Canadian horror movie: 2 wds.
66. "__ _ scientist." ...said Victor Frankenstein
67. Busy as __: 2 wds.
68. "Take __ __ face value."
69. "The Birds" (1963) star Ms. Hedren
71. "__ Window" (1954)
72. "__ Fear" (1991)
73. "A Nightmare __ __ Street" (1984)
74. Slitherer's sounds
75. Broadway star Linda of Jekyll & Hyde
76. Q. "How does 'wolf' begin?" A. "With '__', _ think."

Down

1. Body's bed below
2. "The Sixth Sense" (1999) star, __ Joel Osment
3. __ layer
4. "The __ of Frankenstein" (1939)
5. Not kosher
6. Toxic bite treatment
7. Mr. Savant of "Godzilla" (1998)
8. Pledge
9. Closed
10. Cauldron creations: 2 wds.
11. "Ahem!"
12. Stake ___ heart (Vampire eliminator)
13. Suit pieces
22. Fix
23. Capture
25. 1988 David Cronenberg directed thriller: 2 wds.
29. Antiperspirant, Soft & __
30. Prosecutor, for short
31. Fireplace residue
32. Sushi tuna
33. Journal
34. Your, in Italy
36. Exorcism need: 2 wds.
38. Polit. designation
39. Three, in Tuscany
40. Prefix with 'thesis'
42. Scot's no
44. Owl's noise
47. French pronoun
50. Cereal grass
52. Small swallow
53. Petri dish gels
54. Wisecracks, variantly
55. "Is this __ __ scary?" ...horror movie chooser's query
58. "Carrie" (1976) actress Ms. Laurie
59. Plentiful
60. "The Evil Dead" (1981) director Sam
62. The Vampire Chronicles writer Anne
63. Dutch for 'city'
64. Neck's back
65. Pack
70. 'Serpent' suffix

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